



MEMORANDUM

TO: Indiana Superintendents and Principals

FROM: Dr. George Frampton, Chief School Certification Officer

DATE: May 28, 2010

SUBJECT: Legal Standards for Accreditation

The Indiana Department of Education has been working to develop revisions to the legal standards portion of school accreditation. Our intent was to streamline the process as much as possible and reduce the time required for districts and schools to submit assurances of compliance. As you recall, these assurances previously have involved the completion of many paper forms and either mailing or faxing them to the IDOE. These paper forms have been replaced by an on-line system.

Another goal was to simplify the legal standards. In the past, there were 28 separate standards for accreditation. The revised legal standards have been consolidated whenever possible and reduced to 11 legal standards.

LEGAL STANDARDS BUILDING LEVEL	LEGAL STANDARDS DISTRICT LEVEL
STANDARD 1: Submission Of Local Board-Approved School Improvement Plan By September 15	STANDARD 7: Student Services Compliance
STANDARD 2: Curricular Compliance	STANDARD 8: Instructional Staff Requirements Compliance
STANDARD 3: Student Assessment Compliance [Testing Minimum Of 95% Of Students]	STANDARD 9: 180 Instructional Days Provided For All Students Compliance
STANDARD 4: Safety Compliance	STANDARD 10: Publish Annual Corporation Performance Report Compliance
STANDARD 5: Timely Submission of Reports	STANDARD 11: Corporation Curriculum Related Requirements Compliance
STANDARD 6: Student Health Testing Compliance	

District and building officials will see a scoreboard listing each standard with color indicator to show compliance status. Red will indicate non-compliance or no action has yet been taken. Green will indicate compliance has been verified.

	Standard 4: Safety Compliance
	Standard 4: Safety Compliance

The following standards will be independently evaluated for compliance by review of collected data from other building or district submissions therefore, no electronic assurance is required:

- Legal Standard 3, Student Assessment Compliance. If the ISTEP+ and NCA data shows that 95% or more of eligible students were tested, the scoreboard will change Legal Standard 3's indicator from purple to green to indicate compliance.
- Legal Standard 5, Timely Submission of Reports. If the school's data reports have been certified as correct at least 85% of the time during the year, the Legal Standard 5's indicator will change from purple to green to indicate compliance.
- Legal Standard 6, Student Health Testing Compliance. When school officials complete all parts of the new online data submission for student health screenings, the scoreboard's Legal Standard 6 indicator will change from purple to green to indicate compliance.
- Legal Standard 9, 180 Instructional Days Compliance. When the superintendent certifies the school calendar in the DOE-CID application, the scoreboard's Legal Standard 9 indicator will change from purple to green to indicate compliance.

All remaining legal Standards will be verified as compliant by the superintendent or principal by typing their name into the on-line assurance, dating the submission and clicking submit. The compliance indicator for these standards will then change from red to green.

A detailed description of each standard's requirements can be found on the [DOE Accreditation home page](#).

Due to a design flaw recently discovered, the launch of this application will be delayed until the week of June 7th; this includes the submission method for revised School Improvement Plans due to the Department of Education by September 15, 2010.

If you have questions, please contact George Frampton at frampton@doe.in.gov or Sarah Frantz at sfrantz@doe.in.gov.